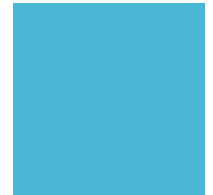




TORNADOES/WIND STORMS



A tornado is a violently rotating column of air, pendant from a cumuliform cloud or underneath a cumuliform cloud, and often (but not always) visible as a funnel cloud. Tornadoes are related to larger vortex formations, and therefore often form in convective cells such as thunderstorms or in the right forward quadrant of a hurricane, far from the hurricane eye. Straight-line wind storms (derechos) can also cause significant destruction.

HAS IT HAPPENED LOCALLY?

Federal databases report that nine tornadoes have occurred in Howard County between 1975 and 2011. The database indicates there were four F0s, three F1s, and two F2 tornadoes. The NCDC database reports that 115 thunderstorm wind events have occurred in Howard County between 1969 and 2011. Of the 115 events, six included winds of 60 knots (69 mph) or greater. A derecho with wind gusts of up to 80 mph passed through Howard County on June 29th, 2012. On June 21, 2016, an F0 tornado touched down in western Howard County. The tornado travelled nearly 13 miles and left a path of debris over 500 yards wide.

WHAT IS THE ONGOING RISK?

There is an expected **1-30% Annual Likelihood** of a Tornado/Wind Storm hazard in Howard County. In the most likely Tornado/Wind Storm scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Limited**. In the worst-case scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Significant**.

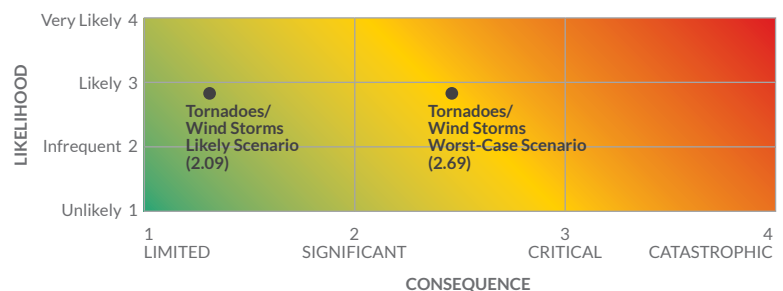
DID YOU KNOW?

- Howard County averages one tornado every four years.
- There have been zero tornado-related fatalities in Howard County since 1950.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Howard County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment readyhoco.com/hazards
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration spc.noaa.gov
- Ready.gov ready.gov/tornadoes

RISK MATRIX



LOCAL RISK OVERVIEW

Future Likelihood	Infrequent-Likely 1-30% chance of annual occurrence	
Impact	MOST-LIKELY	WORST-CASE
	Limited	Significant
Risk Score	1	2.5
Risk Ranking (High to Low)	Ranked #7 of 10 natural hazards.	

TORNADOES/WIND STORMS IMPACT

Where no Worst-Case bar is visible, Worst-Case impact is equivalent to Likely Impact

